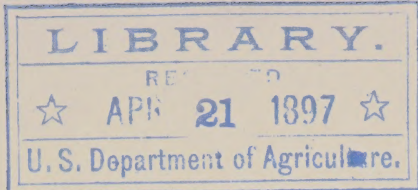


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No. 226.

# United States Department of Agriculture,

## DIVISION OF PUBLICATIONS,

*Washington, D. C., April 15, 1897.*

### HOW TO GROW MUSHROOMS.

The numerous applicants to the Department of Agriculture for publications treating on mushroom culture can shortly be supplied, as there is now in press Farmers' Bulletin No. 53, a treatise on "How to Grow Mushrooms," by William Falconer, superintendent of Schenley Park, Pittsburg, Pa., and a successful grower and an eminent authority on mushrooms.

This bulletin, containing 20 pages and 14 illustrations, treats of mushrooms for commercial purposes in a practical way from the standpoint of the grower.

There is a widespread impression that there is some secret in the cultivation of mushrooms, that the whole procedure is shrouded in mystery, and that the mushrooms have even to be grown in midnight darkness. This is an entire mistake.

Mushrooms are easy to grow and beginners are often as successful as those having experience. The same conditions necessary for success in other branches of agricultural activity, viz, good materials, interest in the business, intelligent management, and persistent application, promise success in mushroom growing.

Mushrooms are a winter crop, and apart from the preparation of the manure and making the beds, they are a clean crop to handle. Much of the work can be done as well by women as by men. The following table of contents and list of illustrations will show how fully the author has treated the subject:

Contents: Introduction—Raising mushrooms from spores or seeds—Spawn—Where to grow mushrooms—Manure—Preparing the beds—Spawning the beds—Loaming the beds—Temperature—Gathering the mushrooms—Sorting—Packing—Marketing—Renovating old or failing beds—Mushroom diseases—Insect and other animal enemies—Growing mushrooms in summer.

Illustrations: English, or brick spawn—Brick spawn broken into pieces ready for planting—French, or flake, spawn—Flake broken into pieces ready for planting—Mushroom bed in cool cellar—Shelf beds in warm cellar—Board bed on floor of cellar or shed—Cross section of mushroom house—Mushroom houses showing heating arrangement—Basket of mushrooms from leading commission house—Same basket opened (showing method of packing)—Selection of mushrooms from same basket—Basket from large grower—Same basket opened (showing method of packing).

Copies of this bulletin can be obtained from the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., or from members of Congress.

